GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:855
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2005
EFFICIENCY OF COMMERCIAL PILOTS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to reduce the number of hours required to obtain Commercial Pilots Licence (CLP) for aeroplane;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the efficiency of commercial pilots and operational efficiency of the aeroplanes?

Answer

- MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- The Central Government have already reduced the number of hours required to obtain Commercial Pilot`s Licence (CPL) for aeroplane from 250 hours to 200 hours with effect from 14.06.2005.

(c):- Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have taken following steps to improve the efficiency of Commercial Pilots:-

i) Pilots are required t o undergo bi-annual Proficiency Checks, Local Checks, Random Checks, Skill Test, Refresher Course, Instrument Rating Checks, etc. under the supervision of DGCA approved Instructors/Examiners to maintain the efficiency in flying;

ii) The format for issue/renewal of Pilot Proficiency Check and Instrument Rating has been revised to conform to the international standards and has inclusion of additional emergency and abnormal procedures including Dangerous Goods Regulations(DGR), Cockpit Resources Management(CRM), and `Pilot Not Flying` (PNF)duties; and

iii) CPL holders operating aircraft below 5700 Kg. All-up-weight (AUW) are subjected to flight review as per the requirement of Aircraft Rules.

Whereas manufacturer lays down maintenance procedures to be followed by the operators to have the optimum operational efficiency of the plane, DGCA through spot checks and surveillance checks ensures that the operator follows all the laid down procedures meticulously. DGCA also mandates all airworthiness directives declared b y the country of design of the aircraft for improving operational efficiency of the plane.